

colleagues in wishing President Chen all the best.

TAIWAN PRESIDENT CELEBRATES THIRD ANNIVERSARY IN OFFICE

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am honored to pay tribute to Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian on the occasion of his third anniversary in Office. During the last 3 years, he has maintained both economic and political growth for his country. The people of Taiwan enjoy one of the best standards in Asia and full political freedom.

President Chen has also strengthened Taiwan's relationship with the United States. We appreciate his support of our war against terrorism and his pledge of humanitarian assistance to post-war Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, the spread of SARS has threatened the entire region and permeated the west with sporadic infections. We hope that President Chen will be successful in controlling the spread of SARS in Taiwan and that Taiwan will not suffer the disastrous economic and medical set back such an epidemic would promote.

Once again, I congratulate President Chen on 3 years of service to the Taiwanese people and wish him well as he strives to develop the political and economic landscape of Taiwan.

AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to welcome the building of a new university and, in fact, a new town in the district I represent. Ave Maria University—Florida's newest university—will be an academic center of international scope founded on Catholic religious beliefs and committed to developing a Division I caliber athletics program. The university plans to grow to about 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students and will have a full curriculum of traditional liberal arts, sciences and engineering programs, as well as a comprehensive graduate program offering masters and doctoral degrees.

The campus will cover approximately 750 acres, including a world class golf course in eastern Collier County. The university, which has already begun construction on an interim campus, is seeded with approximately \$200 million from Thomas S. Monaghan, Domino's Pizza Founder and former owner of the Detroit Tigers, who is also chairman of the Ave Maria Foundation in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The town that will house Ave Maria University will be developed through a joint partnership between the university and the Barron Collier Companies. This town will produce endless economic benefit for surrounding communities and will serve as a great home for Florida's newest university.

Ave Maria University will bring academic excellence, athletic competition and strong

Catholic principles to one of America's fastest growing communities. As America congratulates Florida on the creation of the nation's newest Catholic university, I welcome this wonderful addition to Southern Florida.

This university will provide endless opportunities for students seeking a first-rate education within a Catholic university setting. Additionally, Ave Maria University will bring growth to the surrounding areas and a great potential to recruit superior faculty and staff.

While Ave Maria University is one of my newest constituents, I speak on behalf of the 25th Congressional District, South Florida and the entire state in congratulating Ave Maria University and welcoming the university and its students to Collier County.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, since 1990, we have honored the lives and accomplishments of Asian Pacific Americans during the month of May. From the early 1800s to the 21st century, Asian and Pacific peoples have played a vital role in the development of the United States and have made lasting contributions in all elements of American society. Asian Pacific Americans have helped to define what it means to be an American, to work to advance the needs of all.

I am proud that the region I represent in Congress is such a diverse one and is home to many people of Asian Pacific heritage—Asian Pacific American communities such as Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese Americans. In California's 29th District, cities like Alhambra, Altadena, Burbank, Pasadena, Glendale, Monterey Park, San Gabriel, South Pasadena and Temple City boast thriving, active Asian American communities. The City of Glendale, for example, boasts the nation's fourth largest Korean American population in the United States.

In fact, just last month, I was privileged to travel to South Korea to address the increasingly important political, social and economic issues that have emerged on the Korean peninsula. The Congressional delegation trip focused on security issues on the Korean Peninsula, the plight of North Korean refugees and the abysmal human rights conditions in the North—issues important to my constituents and all Americans.

But, in honoring Asian Pacific Americans this month, I also honor those individuals and organizations in my District whose accomplishments and contributions to our community have been immeasurable.

It is my honor to recognize Cause-Vision 21 and its esteemed founder, Charlie Woo. The organization is dedicated to advancing the political empowerment of the Chinese American and Asian American communities through voter education, community outreach and leadership development. Each year, they organize the Chinese American Student Internship Coalition (CASIC), a program that provides Chinese American college students with the opportunity to gain hands on experience with

the political process and a deeper understanding of issues important to the Chinese American community.

Earlier this year, I named Dr. Annie Chin Siu of Alhambra as one of the Women of the Year in California's 29th District. Her continued efforts to help our youth, the development of commerce, the preservation of our historical legacy and her devotion to the improvement of public safety are remarkable. The recipient of numerous awards, including the Los Angeles Chinese Chamber of Commerce's Service Award and the Los Angeles Chinatown Public Safety Award, Dr. Liu is the consummate volunteer. She has been active in the Chinese American Museum, Chinese Historical Society of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Chinatown Public Safety Association, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate that my District is home to many of Southern California's most prominent and well-known Asian American leaders. California State Assemblymember Judy Chu, Monterey Park City Councilmembers Michael Eng and David Lau, and California Board of Equalization Member John Chiang have all displayed an unsurpassed dedication to their constituents.

These are just a few, specific examples of the impact people of Asian Pacific heritage have had in the communities of California's 29th District.

As a member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Congressional Caucus on Korea, the United States—Philippines Friendship Caucus, and Taiwan Caucus, I have had the opportunity to support legislative efforts important to constituents in my district.

As a nation, we must embrace the cultures that have worked to advance the needs of all Americans and have helped to define what it means to be American. I ask my colleagues to join me today and throughout this month to showcase and celebrate the contributions—both historical and present—of Asian Pacific Americans in our nation, our cities, and our communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 19, 2003, had I been present for rollcall vote Nos. 192, 193, and 194, I would have voted the following way: rollcall vote No. 192—"aye," rollcall vote No. 193—"aye," rollcall vote No. 194—"aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on May 19, 2003, I was unable to vote on H. Con. Res. 166, Expressing the Sense of Congress in Support of Buckle Up America Week (rollcall vote 192), H.R. 1018, James L. Watson United States Court of International Trade Building (rollcall 193), and H. Con. Res. 147,